	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	09/288,475	ZDEPSKI, JOEL
	Examiner	Art Unit
	William C. Vaughn, Jr.	2143

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to _7/28/04_.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are _20-26, 28-30, 38 and 39. Renumbered 1-12_.

3. ☒ The drawings filed on _08 April 1999_ are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None   of the:

        1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

        1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☒ to Paper No./Mail Date _9/17/02_.

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
    Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _5/14/04_ ✓

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _28 July 2004_ ✓

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

William C. Vaughn, Jr.
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2143

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or

additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR

1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with

Mark Vatuone, Reg. 53,719 on 28 July 2004.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 27, 31-37 and 40 without prejudice or disclaimer

Please amend claims 20, 22, 23, 25, 29, 38 and 39 as follows:

20. {CURRENTLY AMENDED} A method for responding to an e-mail message comprising:

receiving an e-mail message created by an original sender;

determining whether the received e-mail message corresponds to a one-touch e-mail

message type, wherein the one-touch e-mail type is created by the original sender

according to a first format including:

a first demarcation which identifies said received e-mail message as a one-touch e-mail

message type, wherein the first demarcation indicates one or more options

follow the first demarcation; and

for each of said one or more options;

a begin short option indicator;

a long option text; and

an end short option indictor;

<u>a second demarcation which indicates an end of said one or more options; and a main</u>

<u>message; and</u>

wherein said determining comprises:

parsing the received e-mail message prior to displaying the received e-mail

message; and detecting whether the received e-mail message types from non-one-

touch e-mail messages types;

processing the received e-mail message in response to determining the received e-mail

message corresponds to a one-touch e-mail type, wherein said processing   comprises:

identifying within the received e-mail message a main message and one or more option

indicator demarcations, each of said option indicator demarcations corresponding

to a selectable option;

displaying the main message;

displaying for each of the one or more option indicator demarcations a corresponding

first text which is included within the received e-mail message, wherein said first

text describes a corresponding option;

displaying a second text in response to detecting the selection of a first option which

corresponds to a first option indictor demarcation of said <u>one or more</u> option

indicator demarcations, wherein the second text is included within the received e-

mail message and further describes the first option; and

automatically generating a reply message to the original sender which identifies the first

option, in response to input from a user;

displaying the received e-mail message without performing said processing, in response

to determining the e-mail message does not correspond to a one-touch e-mail

type.

22. {CURRENTLY AMENDED} The method of claim 21, further comprising automatically

assigning a number to each of the one or more <u>user selectable</u> options included within the

received e-mail message, and wherein each of the one or more <u>user selectable</u> options are

displayed along with a number which has been assigned to the corresponding option.

23. {CURRENTLY AMENDED} The method of claim 20, wherein the e-mail message is

received via an interactive television system.

25. {CURRENTLY AMENDED} The method of claim ~~26~~ 20, wherein the reply message is

automatically generated and sent responsive to a single indication received from a user.

29. {CURRENTLY AMENDED} The method of claim ~~30~~ 20, wherein the received e-mail

message corresponds to an advertisement for a product or service, and wherein said reply

message indicates an interest in the product or service by a user.

38. {CURRENTLY AMENDED} A system for responding to an electronic message comprising:

a processor configured to:

      detect a received e-mail message;

determine whether the receive e-mail corresponds to a one-touch e-mail message type

~~by~~; wherein the one-touch e-mail message type is created by the original sender

 according to a first format, said first format including:

a first demarcation which identifies said received e-mail message as a one-touch email

   message type, wherein the first demarcation indicates one or more options

   follow the first demarcation; and

 for each of said one or more options:

   a begin short option indicator;

   a long option text; and

   an end short option indicator;

a second demarcation which indicates an end of said one or more options; and a main

   message; and wherein determining whether said received e-mail message

   corresponds to a one-touch e-mail message type by:

parsing the received e-mail message prior to displaying the received e-mail message; and

detecting whether the received e-mail message includes a demarcation which

   distinguishes one-touch e-mail message types from non-one-touch messages

   types;

process received e-mail message in response to determining said message corresponds to

   a one-touch e-mail message type, said process comprising:

   identifying within the received e-mail message a main message and one or more

      option indicator demarcation, each of said one or more option indicator

      demarcations corresponding to a user selectable option;

displaying the main message;

displaying for each of the one or more option indicator demarcations a

corresponding first text which is included within the received e-mail

message, wherein said first text describes a corresponding option;

displaying a second text in response to detecting the selection of a first option

which corresponds to a first option indicator demarcation of said <u>one or</u>

<u>more</u> option indicator demarcations, wherein the second text is included

within the received e-mail message and further describes the first option;

and

automatically generating a reply message to the original sender which identifies

the first option, in response to input from a user;

display the received e-mail message without performing said process, in response to

determining the e-mail message does not correspond to a one touch e-mail type;

a memory coupled with the processor, wherein the memory is configured to

provide instructions to the processor.

39. {CURRENTLY AMENDED} A computer program product for responding to an electronic

message, said <u>computer program</u> product comprising a computer readable medium <u>wherein the</u>

<u>computer readable medium is selected from the group consisting of a CD-ROM, floppy disk,</u>

<u>tape, flash memory, system memory, and hard drive;</u> and wherein the computer readable medium

including program instructions executable to:

detect a received e-mail message from an original sender;

determine whether the received e-mail message corresponds to one-touch e-mail

message type, wherein the one-touch e-mail type is created by the original sender

according to a first format, said first format including:

a first demarcation which identifies said received e-mail message as a one-touch e-mail

message type, wherein the first demarcation indicates one or more options follow

the first demarcation; and

for each of said one or more options:

a begin short option indicator;

a long option text; and

an end short option indicator;

a second demarcation which indicates an end of said one or more options; and a main

message; and

wherein said determining further comprises:

parse the received e-mail message prior to displaying the received e-mail message; and

detect whether the received e-mail message includes a demarcation which distinguishes

one-touch e-mail message types from non-one touch e-mail message types;

process the receive e-mail message, in response to determining the received e-

mail message corresponds to a on-touch e-mail type, wherein said process

comprises:

identifying within the received e-mail message a main message and one or more option

indicator demarcations, each of said option indicator demarcations corresponding

to a user selectable option;

displaying the main message;

displaying for each of the one or more option indicator demarcations a corresponding

first text which is included within the received e-mail message, wherein said first

text describes a corresponding option;

display a second text in response to detecting ~~the~~ a selection of a first option which

corresponds to a first option indicator demarcation of said <u>one or more</u> option

indicator demarcations, wherein the second text is included within the received e-

mail message and further describes the first option; and

automatically generate a reply message to the original sender which identifies the first

option, in response to input from a user;

display the received e-mail message without performing said process, in response to determining

the e-mail message does not correspond to a one-touch e-mail type.

Reasons for Allowance

2.   The following is an examiner's reasons for allowance: Interpreted in view of the

specification, Applicant's invention shows novelty in the combination of all the features of the

independent claims including the determination of standard or one-touch email message that

includes multiple processing options define between demarcations/delimiters. These options

defined within the message include processing directives such as, text, symbols, codes and

phrases. The options are further defined by demarcation fields, which include indicators, that

indicate actual processing directives and/or references to how each option is to be processed.

These indicators may include short or long option indicators that may be inserted within a

demarcation/delimiter, (see Applicant's arguments 29 April 2004, pages 12-22, interview

summary, as well as Applicant's enabling portions of the specification, page 19, lines 26-28,

pages 9-12. As also argued by Applicant, Noguchi-Cleron as well as other prior art of record do

not teach or suggest singly or in combination formatting of either a one touch or a non one touch

email type nor do they teach the demarcation indicators as well as the processing of the different

options used in the email message. Thus as stated above, none of the prior art of record teaches

or suggests the above limitation in combination with all the limitations of the independent

claims.

3.   The dependent claims further limit the independent claims and are considered allowable

on the same basis as the independent claims as well as for the further limitations set forth.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment

of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee.

Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for

Allowance."

4.   **Claims 20-26, 28-30, 38 and 39** are allowable. Renumbered **claims 1-12.**

Drawings

5.   The drawings filed on 08 April 1999 are acceptable subject to correction of the

informalities indicated on the previous "Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review," PTO-

948 (dated 17 September 2002). In order to avoid abandonment of this application, correction is

required in reply to the Office action. The correction will not be held in abeyance.
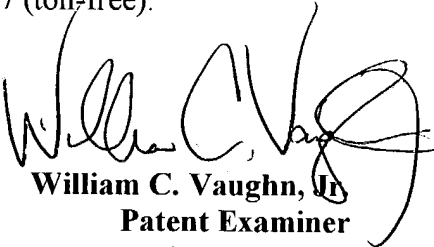
Conclusion

6.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William C. Vaughn, Jr. whose telephone number is (703) 306-9129. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-6:00, 1st and 2nd Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A Wiley can be reached on (703) 308-5221. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

William C. Vaughn, Jr
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2143
12 August 2004